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county does not want the funds, the State of Nebraska has been able to match those funds. So we have never lost dollar one of federal highway monies in the construction of roads in the State of Nebraska.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker, I can say the thing, the same thing for Sarpy County because Sarpy County has never allowed any federal funds to go by. As a matter of fact, we have state funds or we have county funds that are available for federal matching funds if the federal ever comes through with it.

PRESIDENT: Senator F. Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: I have a series of questions to ask so that this is firmly ingrained in my mind. First of all, you're saying, Senator Carpenter, that we should never use any money for state...all state road money. Is that correct?

SENATOR CARPENTER: There are standards set forth by the federal government which eventually we can match with federal money, yes.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: And secondly, you want a prohibition on the use of that money this year and it's going to create a surplus of some \$20 million.

SENATOR CARPENTER: The only prohibition is that they can't spend 100% of state funds on federally approved highways without federal matching.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Obviously there's going to be a surplus if you're reappropriating money elsewhere. Now, you're taking part of this money and reappropriating it, for instance, to the State Patrol?

SENATOR CARPENTER: Eight million dollars. I only suggest that.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Well, you know, that leads me to a very interesting hearing we had earlier this year when I had before the Legislative Committee, Urban Affairs Committee, a bill that provided for some mass transportation options dealing with the highway funds. And we had requested that 5% of that be allocated out. And certainly if there's a surplus available and the money's not being spent correctly, I'm sure there's probably some matching funds available for that. And I'm going to be prepared to offer an amendment to maybe divert it to that particular source if that money's not necessary not. The thing's amazing to me why this appears to be somewhat contradictory to the testimony and the arguments at that time was that there were those that were crying and bleeding over the fact that there wasn't enough money available at that time and there was considerable speculation to providing an additional tax increase through increase in the gas tax. Or someone had talked in terms of the California plan...all right?

SENATOR CARPENTER: All I'm saying is Senator, there's nobody in this Body that I know of who knew we had a \$20 million surplus in the Highway Department over and beyond the matching of every dollar of federal fund. That's all I'm discussing. We didn't know that. Now we're trying to attempt to make policy. Now you're talking about mass transit which is another thing.